GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6304
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2002
DELAY IN CLEARANCE TO EQUIPMENT
ARUN KUMAR

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Purchase and Stores(DPS) of Department of Atomic Energy(DAE) had placed an order on a foreign firm in August, 1990 for supply of one Ionization Mass Spectometer with accessories and spares for urgent replacement of old and obsolete equipment at Nuclear Fuel Complex(NFC), Hyderabad;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Directorate of Purchase and Stores did not clear the equipment immediately on its receipt resulting into loss of money;

(c) if so, the reasons for not clearing the consignment immediately and not paying the premium;

(d) the action the Government propose to take against those found guilty in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINIS OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) As per the terms and conditions of the contract the foreign supplier was to send an advance intimation to the purchaser so as to clear the consignment within the shortest period. However no such advance intimation was received from the foreign supplier. By the time the information was received, the consignment package got drenched and damaged due to heavy rain which resulted in flooding at the Air Cargo Complex, Mumbai Airport. Since this consignment was covered under insurance it had to be cleared only after assessing the damage caused to the consignment, through a joint survey conducted associating representative from the insurance company and the user Deptt. The insurance premium was paid through cheque and the underwriter had also encashed the department`s cheque.

(d) Based on the written assurance given by the insurance company to reimburse any expenditure on repairs to the consignment, the department carried out necessary repairs of the equipment incurring additional expenditure. Since the department`s claim for reimbursement of the repair charges was not accepted by the insurance firm, the matter has been referred to the Committee of Disputes in the Cabinet Secretariat for settlement of the dispute with the insurance firm.

(e) Does not arise.